

teachers and youth group leaders. I believe these young women should receive the public recognition due them for their efforts and their service to their communities and country.

IN HONOR OF THE URBAN LEAGUE
OF HUDSON COUNTY, INC.'S 19TH
ANNUAL EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
DAY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable organization, the Urban League of Hudson County, Inc. as it celebrates the 19th anniversary of its Equal Opportunity Day. This annual event, which serves to reaffirm the laudable mission of providing equal opportunity to community members, will be celebrated on April 24, 1997 at the Meadowlands Hilton Hotel in Secaucus.

The Urban League of Hudson County, Inc.'s role as a pre-eminent community institution began over a quarter century ago during a turbulent time in the Nation's history. In 1971, we had just come through a decade when the movement toward civil rights took its toll on the urban leaders of our society: Martin Luther King, Jr., Medgar Evers, and Malcolm X. Shabazz, all assassinated in their prime. The mission of this new organization was to continue these leaders' legacy and to help ensure equal opportunity for all members of our American family. Since its inception, the Urban League of Hudson County, Inc. has endeavored to provide positive family images to which others could aspire.

Today, Americans living in urban areas are portrayed too often with violence and in economic distress. The Urban League of Hudson County, Inc., under the direction of current president and CEO Elnora Watson, has made tremendous strides in reversing that stereotype through its various programs, such as AmeriCorps, the Adolescent Servicing Center, Adopt-A-Parent, Beginning Alcohol and Addiction Basic Education Studies, Family Development Program, job placement and retention, mentors for youth, Parent Community Mobilization Initiative, and parenting skills workshops. Graduates of these valuable programs will hopefully go on to become productive residents of Hudson County and become beacons of hope for others in their communities.

This year, the Urban League of Hudson County, Inc. will mark the 19th anniversary of its Equal Opportunity Day Dinner. On this momentous occasion, a number of people will be recognized for working tirelessly to dispel the negative images of urban Americans as portrayed by the media. The award recipients for 1997 include: Catherine Easterling Todd, Nantexter Ferguson Sebron, Betty Warren, Mary L. Setzer, Barbara A. Briggs, Patricia Sebron, Kathleen Washington, Pamela O'Neal, Philip Martin Bonaparte, M.D., Blynette Rogers, Patricia Jackson Robertson, Dale Porter, and Blanche McDuffy Smith. Each of these outstanding individuals has made a unique contribution to enhancing the image of the Urban League of Hudson County, Inc.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this special organization. The Urban League of

Hudson County, Inc. serves as an example of what can be accomplished when people when people work toward a common goal. It is an honor to have them providing services to the residents of my district.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOHN T. MYERS

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the chamber that on Friday, May 9, the Uniontown Locks and Dam, located on the Ohio River between Indiana and Kentucky, will be renamed the John T. Myers Locks and Dam. Uniontown Locks and Dam is just 2 miles south of the confluence of the Wabash River and the mighty Ohio. As John was born and raised along the Wabash in Covington, IN, I can think of no better honor for an individual who dedicated so much of his life to public service, most of that time devoted to watching over our Nation's vast waterways system.

Representative John Meyers served the people of the Seventh Congressional District of Indiana for 30 years before retiring at the end of the 104th Congress. For most of that distinguished career, the citizens of Indiana were fortunate to have him represent them on the House Appropriations Committee. His leadership on the Energy and Water Development Subcommittee, in particular, helped ensure that our Nation's waterways, which are so vital to our national economy, remained navigable.

On May 9, John's many friends will converge on the Uniontown Locks and Dam site to officially recognize his contribution to inland navigation by renaming and dedicating this facility in his honor. It is a fitting tribute to a man whose visionary leadership has played such a significant role in the development and maintenance of America's rivers, ports and harbors.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the Armenian genocide.

The atrocities committed against the Armenian people in the late 19th century and the early 20th century ranks among the worst such occurrences in human history. As the 19th century drew to a close, authorities in the crumbling Ottoman Empire decided to crack down against a growing movement for Armenian autonomy. After enduring brutal persecution, the Armenians refused to pay the taxes levied by their oppressors. As a result, thousands of innocent civilians lost their lives and thousands more witnessed the destruction of their homes—all because the Ottoman Government wanted to teach them a lesson.

When the Armenians sought to publicize their plight by seizing a government building in Constantinople, government forces instigated

a vicious pogrom during which over 50,000 perished. Several years later during the First World War, Armenian service in the Allied cause prompted the Turkish authorities to order the deportation of almost the entire Armenian population from their homeland to two distant provinces of the Turkish Empire, Syria and Palestine. Well over one million died during this long forced march, many thousands at the hands of government soldiers and many more from disease and malnutrition.

It is unfortunate that we have not managed to escape the consequences of these atrocities. The legacy of bitterness is readily observable in central Asia, where memories of past injustice have complicated the search for peace and stability in Nagorno-Karabakh.

As the horror continued, thousands of Armenians came to this country. Many of their heirs now live in my own State of California, where they have established an enviable record of prosperity and service to the United States. California is home to the largest Armenian-American population in the United States. The California State Assembly designated April 24, 1997 as "California Day of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide of 1915–23, and for the Victims of the Sumgait Pogroms of 1988 and Baku Riots of 1990."

The resolution notes that Armenians in Nagorno Karabagh remain at risk until a peaceful resolution to the Karabagh conflict is reached that guarantees the freedom of security for these people while supporting their right to self-determination.

We join Armenians around the world as we remember the terrible massacres suffered in 1915–23, among one of the worst tragedies to befall a group of people.

Even though this is a day of commemoration for the thousands who perished in the Armenian genocide, we must not forget the great duty of those now living to prepare a better world for generations to come.

INTRODUCTION OF "THE INSULAR
FAIR WAGE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
ACT OF 1997"

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to address the systematic, persistent, and inexcusable exploitation of men and women in sweatshops in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, a territory of the United States of America.

Despite criticisms from the Congress and Federal agencies, and despite promises by CNMI leaders of sweeping change of aggressive action against abusive employers, these conditions continue today, confirmed by CNMI observers, human rights and religious organizations, and Federal enforcement and oversight agencies. These workers are not free, and are not given the same opportunities and protections every other worker in the United States or its territories is provided. To these workers, the American dream has become a nightmare.

Consumers in the United States and around the world expect that the label "Made in USA" stands for something. American manufacturers